

a horizontally oriented portion;
a vertically oriented portion joined together with said horizontally oriented portion at first ends thereof at a bend; and
one or more apertures located at [the] a second end of said horizontally oriented portion, wherein one or more of said apertures are non-circular so as to permit secure connection to and combination with a hand-held tool in an orientation such that the combination of hanger and tool can be suspended in a desired location in a stable configuration.

14. A tool hanger set forth in claim 9, wherein said second end of said horizontally oriented portion becomes a substitute or replacement for part of the tool's housing.

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

The changes herein are in accordance with Examiner objections and rejections. No new matter is believed to have been added to the application by these amendments.

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 8-9, and 14 remain active in this application. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The rejection of Claims 9 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite, is believed to be obviated by the modification of claim 9 to read --a second end-- in place of "the second end" in line 5 of the claim.

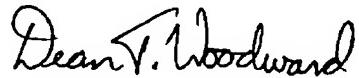
The rejections of Claims 1, 2, 8, 9 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patents 4,447,030 to Nattel, 4,733,879 to Arenhold, D223,082 to Fromm, and 6,513,776 to Bissett are believed to be obviated by the clarification of claims 1 and 9 to recite that the tool hanger is combined with a hand-held tool. In contrast, none of the cited references contain this additional element.

The rejection of Claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nattel and Fromm because threading of one or more apertures would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art is believed to be obviated by the clarification of claim 1 to recite

that the tool hanger is combined with a hand-held tool. Claim 3 is dependent from Claim 1, which, if allowable, would make Claim 3 allowable.

In view of these amendments, withdrawal of these grounds of rejection is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Marked-Up Version of Replacement Paragraphs/Sections
 Serial Number: 10/039,573

Please amend the following paragraphs requested by previous amendment to be entered on page 9, beginning at line 20 on page 2 of the Amendment, as shown below:

FIG. [8] 7 is a perspective view of a fourth embodiment of the instant invention.

FIG. [9] 8 is a perspective view of the fourth embodiment of the instant invention in combination with a tool.

Please amend the paragraph requested by previous amendment to be entered on page 10, beginning at line 14 on page 3 of the Amendment, as shown below:

As illustrated in FIGS 7 and 8 [8 and 9], the hanger for tools 48 comprises a secure hanger for a tool that would enable the tool to be safely hung on a ladder, a rafter, or even the user's belt. The present invention 48 comprises a vertically oriented portion 50 and a horizontally oriented portion 52 joined together at a bend 54. The horizontally oriented portion 52 has a noncircular aperture 56 there through disposed. The noncircular aperture 56 is so dimensioned so as to achieve a secure fit over a protrusion 68 that extends from the end cap 62 of the tool 58.

Please amend the paragraph requested by previous amendment to be entered on page 10, beginning at line 21 on page 3 of the Amendment, as shown below:

In use, the noncircular aperture 56 permits secure connection to the end cap 62. The user would place the instant invention 48 over the end cap 62. Then the user would use [noncircular] spacer 64 and washer 66 to secure the instant invention 48 to the end cap 62. Finally, the user would add the air fitting 22 to the end cap 62 to secure the hanger, and thereby prevent movement of the instant invention 48 in any direction relative to the tool 58.--

Please amend the paragraph on page 10, beginning at line 5, as shown below:

As illustrated in FIGS. 1 through 4, the hanger for tools 8 comprises a secure hanger for a tool that would enable the tool to be safely hung on a ladder, a rafter, or even the user's belt. The present invention comprises [an L-shaped hook portion 10 having] a vertically oriented portion 12 and a horizontally oriented portion 14 joined together at a bend 16. The horizontally oriented portion 14 has a central aperture 18 there through disposed inwardly of a specifically shaped portion 20 thereof. The aperture 18 is dimensioned for fitting over a pneumatic air fitting 22. The specifically shaped portion 20 also consists of a multitude of apertures 24a, 24b, and 24c permitting bolts 26a, 26b, and 26c to pass through.